

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 1, 3, 4, 11, 12, 14-24, 28, 29 and 31 are pending. Claims 3, 4 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 1, 3, 4, 28, 29 and 31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Adler *et al.* The specific grounds for rejection, and applicants' response thereto, are set out in detail below.

II. Restriction and Rejoinder

Applicants note and appreciate the examiner's detailed discussion of the restriction requirement and conditions for possible rejoinder of method claims. Applicants believe that method claims, as amended herein, contain subject matter that is commensurate in scope with allowable composition claims. Thus, rejoinder of claims 11, 12, and 14-24 is respectfully requested. Also, applicants have amended method claims 11 and 19 to recite all three peptides: SEQ ID NOS:2-4.

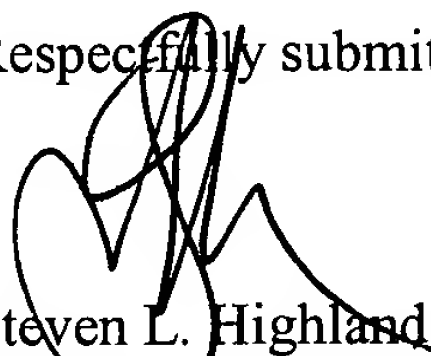
III. Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1-4, 6-8, 28-32 and 34-36 stand rejected under §102(b) over Adler *et al.* Applicants have amended claims 1, 11, 19 and 28 to include the limitation of previous claims 5 and 33, namely, oral formulation. Thus, it is believed that the amended claims are novel over Adler *et al.* Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is therefore respectfully requested.

IV. Conclusion

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at (512) 536-3184 with any questions, comments or suggestions relating to the referenced patent application.

Respectfully submitted,



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